

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figures 3 and 6. These sheets replace the original sheets which include Figures 3 and 6. In order to be consistent with the specification, Figure 3 has been amended so that the text referred to by reference number 328 has been changed to "Hard Disk Drive." Also for the sake of consistency with the specification, the text annotating the point referred to by reference number 602 has been changed to "Pj (Xj, Yj, Zj)" and the text annotating the point referred to by reference number 601 has been changed to "Pi (Xi, Yi, Zi)." Previously omitted reference numbers 521 and 101 have also been added to Figure 6 for clarity and consistency.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

Annotated Sheets Showing Changes

REMARKS

The Examiner's comments from the Office Action mailed August 9, 2007 have been carefully considered. First, Applicant believes the claims in the Amendment and Response filed on May 17, 2007 (hereinafter "May 17 Amendment") have been entered, but that the Amendments to the specification, drawings, and Abstract were not entered. More specifically, page 1 of the Office Action notes claims 8-22 are pending in the Application. Therefore, claims 1-7 appear to have been canceled and thus the claim amendments in the May 17 Amendment appear to have been entered. However, there is no indication that the other Amendments have been reviewed and/or entered. If the Applicant's understanding is incorrect, then Applicant requests the Examiner contact Applicant's attorney below to clarify the status of the Amendments.

Turning to the subject Office Action, page 2 of the Office Action restricts out claims 8-22 as being directed to an invention that was not originally claimed and notes a constructive election of the invention recited in claims 1-7. The Office Action provided an extendable one-month period to correct the May 17 Amendment.

In response, Applicant has filed new claims 23-29, which incorporate all of the features of original claims 1-7, respectively. Additional features have been added to independent claims 23 and 28. Accordingly, in this Amendment, claims 23-29 are directed to the invention of original claims 1-7 and claims 8-22 have been restricted out as directed to an unelected invention. Examination and allowance of claims 23-29 is respectfully requested.

As noted above, the Office Action does not indicate whether or not the Amendments to the specification, drawings, and Abstract that were filed in the May 17 Amendment have been entered. Accordingly, Applicant is resubmitting these amendments in the present response.

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION, DRAWINGS, AND ABSTRACT

Applicant repeats and hereby incorporates by reference herein the comments set out in the May 17 Amendment with respect to the Amendments to the Specification, Drawings, and Abstract.

NEW CLAIMS

Claims 23-29 have been newly added. Support for these claims can be found throughout the specification, figures, and in original claims 1-7. To the extent the rejections made to claims 1-7 in the May 17 Amendment apply to claims 23-29, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Claim 23 recites, in part, each of two scanning apparatus, each including a plurality of alignment spheres. The two scanning apparatus include physical model plate modules for coupling the physical objects to the scanning base plate module within a coordinate system of the scanning device.

None of the references cited in the Office Action disclose or suggest two scanning apparatus, each including a plurality of alignment spheres. Furthermore, none of the references cited in the Office Action disclose or suggest two scanning apparatus including physical model plate modules for coupling physical objects to a scanning base plate module.

For at least these reasons, the cited references do not anticipate or suggest the invention of claim 23. Claims 24-27 depend from claim 23 and are allowable for at least the same reasons. Withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claims 23-27 is respectfully requested. Applicant does not otherwise concede the correctness of the rejection and reserves the right to make additional arguments if necessary.

Claim 28 recites, in part, mounting physical models onto corresponding scanning apparatus, each of which include a plurality of alignment spheres and each of which couple the physical model to a scanning base plate module of the scanning device.

None of the references cited in the Office Action disclose or suggest the invention of claim 28 for at least the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 23.

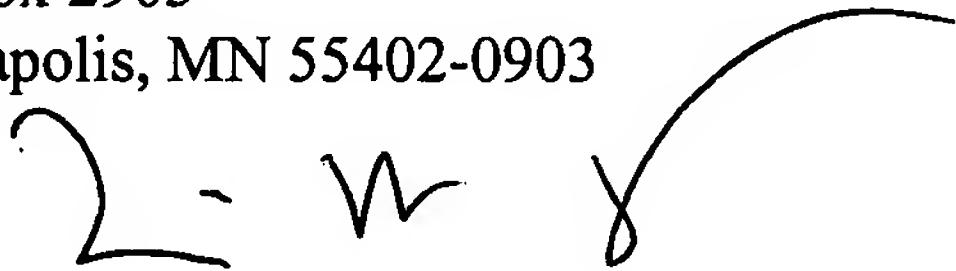
For at least these reasons, the cited references do not anticipate or suggest the invention of claim 28. Claim 29 depends from claim 28 and is allowable for at least the same reasons. Withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claims 28-29 is respectfully requested. Applicant does not otherwise concede the correctness of the rejection and reserves the right to make additional arguments if necessary.

CONCLUSION

Applicant requests reconsideration and allowance of the application in view of the above amendments. If a phone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues related to this matter, please contact Applicant's attorney below at 612.336.4755.

Respectfully submitted,

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Inventor: Michael Marshall
Docket No.: 04314.0077US01
Title: System and Method for Generating an Electronic Model for a Dental Impression Having a
Common Coordinate System
Serial No.: 10/799,344
Annotated Sheet 1 of 2

Fig. 3

Dental Scanning Coordinate System Processing System

